

UNIVERSAL INFRARED COUPLING DEVICE**ABSTRACT**

5 A handheld device cradle for holding a handheld device in a fixed position relative to the cradle includes a movable IR coupling transceiver selectively connected to a keyboard and selectively movable relative to the cradle to align with the IR port of a handheld device mounted on the

10 cradle. A reflective element of the cradle apparatus is arranged to facilitate a satisfactory alignment of a handheld device with the cradle IR transceiver regardless of the location of the IR port on the handheld device. In an example, a full-sized keyboard is used to provide input

15 to a handheld device which is mounted within the exemplary cradle apparatus to maintain IR port alignment between the cradle IR port and the handheld device IR port.